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DECLARATION FOR UTILITY OR DESIGN PATENT APPLICATION (37 CFR 1.63)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Declaration Submitted with Initial Filing	OR	<input type="checkbox"/> Declaration Submitted after (Initial Filing (surcharge (37 CFR 1.16 (e)) required)
	Attorney Docket Number F-199		
	First Named Inventor Ralph		
	COMPLETE IF KNOWN		
	Application Number		
Filing Date 10/1/2001			
Group Art Unit			
Examiner Name			

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, mailing address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

An Intervertebral Spacer Device Having a
Radially Thinning Belleville Spring

(Title of the Invention)

the specification of which

☒ is attached hereto

OR

☐ was filed on (MM/DD/YYYY) as United States Application Number or PCT International

Application Number and was amended on (MM/DD/YYYY) (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or (f), or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

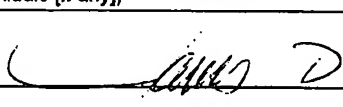
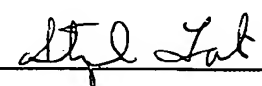
Prior Foreign Application Number(s)	Country	Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Priority Not Claimed	Certified Copy Attached?	
				YES	NO
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

☐ Additional foreign application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto:

F-199

PTO/SB/01 (03-01)
Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0032
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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DECLARATION — Utility or Design Patent Application

Direct all correspondence to: <input type="checkbox"/> Customer Number or Bar Code Label		OR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correspondence address below	
Name Joseph P. Errico			
Address 150 Douglas Road			
City Far Hills		State NJ	ZIP 07931
Country USA	Telephone 917-373-5918		Fax 908-234-1229
I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.			
NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR :		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor	
Given Name (first and middle (if any)) James D.		Family Name or Surname Ralph	
Inventor's Signature 		Date 9/26/2001	
Residence: City Seaside Park	State NJ	Country USA	Citizenship USA
Mailing Address P.O. Box 99			
City Seaside Park	State NJ	ZIP 08752	Country USA
NAME OF SECOND INVENTOR:		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor	
Given Name (first and middle (if any)) Stephen		Family Name or Surname Tatar	
Inventor's Signature 		Date 9/26/2001	
Residence: City Montvale	State NJ	Country USA	Citizenship USA
Mailing Address 45 Upper Mountain Road			
City Montvale	State NJ	ZIP 07045	Country USA
<input type="checkbox"/> Additional inventors are being named on the _____ supplemental Additional Inventor(s) sheet(s) PTO/SB/02A attached hereto.			

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → +

PTO/SB/81 (02-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0035

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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POWER OF ATTORNEY OR AUTHORIZATION OF AGENT

Application Number	
Filing Date	2/18/2004
First Named Inventor	Ralph;
Title	Intervertebral Spacer Device Having a Radially Thinning Belleville Spring
Group Art Unit	
Examiner Name	Pellegrino
Attorney Docket Number	F-199 CON I

I hereby appoint:

☒ Practitioners at Customer Number

36402

Place Customer
Number Bar Code
Label here

☐ Practitioner(s) named below:

Name	Registration Number

as my/our attorney(s) or agent(s) to prosecute the application identified above, and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Please change the correspondence address for the above-identified application to:

☒ The above-mentioned Customer Number.

OR

☐ Practitioners at Customer Number

Place Customer
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☐ Firm or
Individual Name

Address

Address

City

State

Zip

Country

Telephone

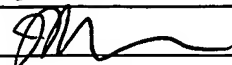
Fax

I am the:

☐ Applicant/Inventor.

☒ Assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71.
Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96).

SIGNATURE of Applicant or Assignee of Record

Name	Joseph P. Errico, CEO, SpineCore, Inc.
Signature	
Date	2/18/2004

NOTE: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below*.

☒ *Total of 1 forms are submitted.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 3 minutes to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 3.73(b)Applicant/Patent Owner: James D. Ralph; Stephen TatarApplication No./Patent No.: _____ Filed/Issue Date: 2/18/2004Entitled: Intervertebral Spacer Device Having a Radially Thinning Belleville SpringSpineCore, Inc., a Delaware corporation,

(Name of Assignee)

(Type of Assignee, e.g., corporation, partnership, university, government agency, etc.)

states that it is:

1. ☒ the assignee of the entire right, title, and interest; or
2. ☐ an assignee of less than the entire right, title and interest.
The extent (by, percentage) of its ownership interest is _____%

in the patent application/patent identified above by virtue of either:

- A. ☐ An assignment from the inventor(s) of the patent application/patent identified above. The assignment was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at Reel _____, Frame _____, or for which a copy thereof is attached.

OR

- B. ☒ A chain of title from the inventor(s), of the patent application/patent identified above, to the current assignee as shown below:

1. From: Inventors To: SpineCore, LLCThe document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at Reel 012221, Frame 0713, or for which a copy thereof is attached.2. From: SpineCore, LLC To: Third Millennium Engineering, LLCThe document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at Reel 012850, Frame 0992, or for which a copy thereof is attached.3. From: Third Millennium Engineering, LLC To: SpineCore, Inc.

The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at Reel _____, Frame _____, or for which a copy thereof is attached.

☐ Additional documents in the chain of title are listed on a supplemental sheet.

- ☐ Copies of assignments or other documents in the chain of title are attached.

[NOTE: A separate copy (i.e., the original assignment document or a true copy of the original document) must be submitted to Assignment Division in accordance with 37 CFR Part 3, if the assignment is to be recorded in the records of the USPTO. See MPEP 302.08]

The undersigned (whose title is supplied below) is authorized to act on behalf of the assignee.

2/18/2004

Date

Joseph P. Errico,

Typed or printed name

Signature

CEO, SpineCore, Inc.

Title

ASSIGNMENT AND ASSUMPTION AGREEMENT

This Assignment and Assumption Agreement (the "Agreement") is effective January 21, 2003 (the "Effective Date") and is among Third Millennium Engineering, LLC., a Delaware limited liability company of Summit, New Jersey ("Millennium"), Third Millennium Enterprises, LLC ("Enterprises") and SpineCore, Inc., a Delaware corporation of Summit New Jersey (the "Company").

Millennium or Enterprises owns or controls certain inventions which are embodied by or encompassed in certain issued patents and pending patent applications, as identified in attached Schedule (collectively, the "Inventions").


For good and sufficient consideration, Millennium and Enterprises hereby irrevocably sells and assigns to the Company, and the Company hereby assumes, Millennium's and Enterprises' entire right, title, and interest in the Inventions throughout the world, and in and to all applications for patent and patents for the Inventions, in all countries of the world, including all divisions, reissues, continuations, substitutions and extensions thereof, and all rights arising under or pursuant to any and all international agreements, treaties or laws relating to the protection of industrial property, including rights of priority, resulting from the filing of any of said applications.

Attachment A (Short Form Assignment and Assumption Agreement)


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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement as of the Effective Date set forth above.

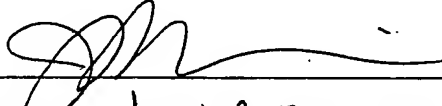
Third Millennium Engineering, LLC


By: Joseph P. Errico, Esq.
Title: Manager
Date: 1/21/03

SpineCore, Inc.


By: Joseph P. Errico, Esq.
Title: CEO
Date: 1/21/03

Third Millennium Enterprises, LLC


By: Joseph P. Errico, Esq.
Title: Manager
Date: 1/21/03

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Schedule of Patents and Patent Applications

Title	Country	Particulars
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having Limited Rotation Using a Captured Ball and Socket Joint With a Solid Ball and Compression Locking Post	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/256,160 Filed 26-Sep-2002
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having a Captured Ball and Socket Joint With a Solid Ball and Compression Locking Post	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/294,981 Filed 14-Nov-2002
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having Limited Rotation Using a Captured Ball and Socket Joint With a Compression Locking Post and a Solid Ball Having a Protrusion	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/294,985 Filed 14-Nov-2002
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having Limited Rotation Using a Captured Ball and Socket Joint with a Solid Ball, a Compression Locking Post and an Interference Pin	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/294,986 Filed 14-Nov-2002
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having Limited Rotation Using a Captured Ball and Socket Joint with a Solid Ball, a Compression Locking Post and an Interference Ball Bearing	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/294,989 Filed 14-Nov-2002
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having a Captured Ball and Socket Joint With a Solid Ball and Retaining Cap	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/294,983 Filed 14-Nov-2002
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having Limited Rotation Using a Captured Ball and Socket Joint With a Solid Ball and Retaining Cap	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/294,982 Filed 14-Nov-2002

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Title	Country	Particulars
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having Limited Rotation Using a Captured Ball and Socket Joint With a Retaining Cap and a Solid Ball Having a Protrusion	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/294,984 Filed 14-Nov-2002
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having Limited Rotation Using a Captured Ball and Socket Joint with a Solid Ball, a Retaining Cap, and an Interference Pin	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/294,980 Filed 14-Nov-2002
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having Limited Rotation Using a Captured Ball and Socket Joint with a Solid Ball, a Retaining Cap, and an Interference Ball Bearing	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/294,988 Filed 14-Nov-2002
Intervertebral Spacer Device	USA	United States Patent No. 5,989,291 Issued 23-Nov-1999
Intervertebral Spacer Device Having a Radially Thinning Belleville Spring	USA	US Application Serial No. 09/968,047 Filed 1-Oct-2001
Intervertebral Spacer Device Utilizing a Belleville Washer Having Radially Extending Grooves	USA	US Application Serial No. 09/968,046 Filed 1-Oct-2001
Intervertebral Spacer Device Having a Radially Thinning Slotted Belleville Spring	USA	US Application Serial No. 09/968,045 Filed 1-Oct-2001
Intervertebral Spacer Device Utilizing a Spirally Slotted Belleville Washer Having Radially Extending Grooves	USA	US Application Serial No. 09/970,479 Filed 4-Oct-2001

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Title	Country	Particulars
Intervertebral Spacer Device Utilizing a Belleville Washer Having Radially Spaced Concentric Grooves	USA	US Application Serial No. 09/974,154 Filed 11-Oct-2001
Intervertebral Spacer Device Utilizing a Spirally Slotted Belleville Washer Having Radially Spaced Concentric Grooves	USA	US Application Serial No. 09/975,471 Filed 11-Oct-2001
Intervertebral Spacer Device Utilizing a Spirally Slotted Belleville Washer and a Rotational Mounting	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/040,801 Filed 7-Jan-2002
Tension Bearing Artificial Disc Providing a Centroid of Motion Centrally Located Within an Intervertebral Space	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/151,280 Filed 20-May-2002
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Utilizing a Ball Joint Coupling	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/175,417 Filed 19-Jun-2002
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having a Slotted Belleville Washer Force Restoring Element	PCT	PCT Application Serial No. PCT/US02/19660 Filed 19-Jun-2002
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having a Grooved Belleville Washer Force Restoring Element	PCT	PCT Application Serial No. PCT/US02/19654 Filed 19-Jun-2002
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having a Slotted Belleville Washer Force Restoring Element	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/177,013 Filed 21-Jun-2002
Intervertebral Spacer Device Having Arch Shaped Spring Elements	USA	US Application Serial No. 09/982,148

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Title	Country	Particulars
		Filed 18-Oct-2001
Intervertebral Spacer Device Having a Domed Arch Shaped	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/035,640 Filed 9-Nov-2001
Intervertebral Spacer Device Having a Slotted Domed Arch Strip Spring	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/035,614 Filed 9-Nov-2001
Intervertebral Spacer Device Having a Slotted Partial Circular Domed Arch Strip Spring	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/035,669 Filed 9-Nov-2001
Intervertebral Spacer Device Having a Multi-Pronged Domed Spring	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/035,668 Filed 9-Nov-2001
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having an Arched Spring Force Restoring Element	PCT	PCT Application Serial No. PCT/US02/19656 Filed 19-Jun-2002
Intervertebral Spacer Device Having a Wave Washer Force Restoring Element	USA	US Patent No. 6,468,310 Issued 22-Oct-2002
Intervertebral Spacer Device Having a Spiral Wave Washer Force Restoring Element	USA	US Application Serial No. 09/906,118 (Allowed Claims) Filed 16-Jul-2001
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having a Wave Washer Force Restoring Element	PCT	PCT Application Serial No. PCT/US02/19659 Filed 19-Jun-2002
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having a Wave Washer Force Restoring Element	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/177,377 Filed 21-Jun-2002

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Title	Country	Particulars
Intervertebral Spacer Device Having a Wave Washer Force Restoring Element	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/272,580 Filed 16-Oct-2002
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having a Spider Spring Force Restoring Element	PCT	PCT Application Serial No. PCT/US02/19651 Filed 19-Jun-2002
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having a Spider Spring Force Restoring Element	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/177,378 Filed 21-Jun-2002
Intervertebral Spacer Having a Flexible Wire Mesh Vertebral Body Contact Element	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/128,619 Filed 23-Apr-2002
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having a Flexible Wire Mesh Vertebral Body Contact Element	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/140,153 Filed 7-May-2002
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having a Deformable Wire Mesh Vertebral Body Contact Element	PCT	PCT Application Serial No. PCT/US02/19657 Filed 19-Jun-2002
Instrumentation and Methods For Use In Implanting an Artificial Disc	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/282,356 Filed 29-Oct-2002
Method of Surgically Treating Scoliosis	USA	US Patent No. 6,447,548 Issued 10-Sep-2002
Trial Intervertebral Distraction Spacers	USA	US Application Serial No. 09/906,119 Filed 16-Jul-2001

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Title	Country	Particulars
Insertion Tool For Use With Trial Intervertebral Distraction Spacers	USA	US Patent No. 6,428,544 Issued 6-Aug-2002
Insertion Tool For Use With Tapered Trial Intervertebral Distraction Spacers	USA	US Patent No. 6,478,801 Issued 12-Nov-2002
Porous Intervertebral Distraction Spacers	USA	US Patent No. 6,471,725 Issued 29-Oct-2002
Surgical Method of Treating Scoliosis	USA	US Application Serial No. 09/906,124 Filed 16-Jul-2001
Method of Distracting Vertebral Bones	USA	US Patent No. 6,436,102 Issued 20-Aug-2002
Vertebral Bone Distraction Instruments	USA	US Application Serial No. 09/906,126 Filed 16-Jul-2001
Instruments for Reorienting Vertebral Bones for the Treatment of Scoliosis	USA	US Application Serial No. 09/906,134 Filed 16-Jul-2001
Insertion Tool For Use With Intervertebral Spacers	USA	US Application Serial No. 09/906,127 Filed 16-Jul-2001
Insertion Tool For Use With Trial Intervertebral Distraction Spacers	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/115,751 Filed 3-Apr-2002
Method of Distracting Vertebral Bones	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/222,332 Filed 16-Aug-2002
Method of Surgically Treating Scoliosis	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/223,146 Filed 19-Aug-2002

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Title	Country	Particulars
Porous Intervertebral Distraction Spacers	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/223,148 Filed 4-Oct-2002
Insertion Tool For Use With Tapered Trial Intervertebral Distraction Spacers	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/223,147 Filed 19-Aug-2002
Static Trials and Related Instruments and Methods for Use in Implanting an Artificial Intervertebral Disc	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/309,585 Filed 4-Dec-2002
Femoral Ring Loader	USA	US Patent No. 6,440,142 Issued 27-Aug-2002
Distraction Instrument for use in Anterior Cervical Fixation Surgery	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/003,000 Filed 30-Nov-2001
Spacer Device and Insertion Instrument for use in Anterior Cervical Fixation Surgery	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/001,531 Filed 30-Nov-2001
Femoral Ring Loader	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/075,688 Filed 13-Feb-2002